Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-09 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 PM-09 T-03 OMB-01 L-03 RSR-01

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R 141540 Z MAR 73 FM AMEMBASSY LISBON TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7723 INFO SECDEF MAC HQUSAF

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E. O. 11652: N/ A TAGS: MARR, PO

COMUSFORAZ

SUBJ: LABOR REGULATIONS AT LAJES

- 1. ON FEBRUARY 9 FONOFF PRESENTED MEMORANDUM TO EMBASSY RAISING SEVERAL ISSUES CONCERNING PORTUGUESE PERSONNEL AT LAJES FIELD IN AZORES. ACKNOWLEDGING THAT PORTUGUESE PERSONNEL EMPLOYED BY US FORCES AZORES NOT SUBJECT TO GOP LABOR LAWS, MEMORANDUM RECOUNTED THAT PRESENT LABOR ARRANGEMENTS BASED ON "1965 REGULATION", WORKED OUT BY US AND PORTUGUESE FORCES AZORES. APPARENTLY DRAWING ON BRIEF PREPARED BY LABOR DELEGATE AT LAJES, MEMORANDUM SAID CURRENT LABOR PRACTICES RE BONUSES AND HOLIDAYS DO NOT MEET USUAL PORTUGUESE STANDARDS. IN PARTICULAR MEMORANDUM COMPLAINED OF 1971 DISCHARGES AND LACK OF CHRISTMAS BONUS IN 1972. MEMORANDUM CONCLUDED BY URGING EARLY ACTION BY USG ON REVISED "REGULATION", WHICH ALLEGEDLY FIRST DRAWN UP IN SUMMER 71.
- 2. AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH COMUSFORAZ LAJES, EMBASSY RESPONDED BY AIDE MEMOIRE OF FEBRUARY 26. EMBASSY NOTED THAT AMENDED "REGULATION" PROPOSED IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUMMER 71 AND THAT DRAFT THEREOF PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL TO COMUSFORAZ ONLY IN SUMMER 72. EMBASSY NOTED THAT PRINCIPAL ISSUES IN REVISED "REGULATION" HAVE ALREADY BEEN ADDRESSED: 1972 SALARY INCREASE; ACCRUAL OF CHRISTMAS 1973 BONUS; AND HOLIDAY PAY BEGINNING JANUARY 73. FOLLOWING UP ON GOP REFERENCE TO DISCHARGES, AIDE MEMOIRE NOTED THAT REDUCTIONS RESULTED FROM OVERALL LOWER LEVEL OF ACTIVITY AT US FACILITIES IN AZORES.

3. IN THIS EXCHANGE FONOFF OFFICIAL URGED THAT WASHINGTON AGENCIES MAKE EFFORT CONCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF NEW "REGULATION" PROMPTLY. EMBASSY ASSURED OFFICIAL THAT MATTER RECEIVING PRIORITY USG ATTENTION. POST

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^{***} Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

^{***} Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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